

IN NORWICH FIFTY YEARS AGO

A half century ago this week the Greenfield school house, a three story brick structure, was badly damaged by fire which broke out during the early morning in the school basement. A baky fire engine which had to be repaired before it could be used was responsible for the fire gaining headway nearly resulting in total destruction of the building.

A messenger had to be despatched to the city to summon aid from the volunteer companies and it was two hours after the fire broke out before the city firemen were on the job.

Interesting items taken from the files of The Norwich Bulletin of 1872 are as follows:

Monday, Jan. 29, 1872.—The steamer City of Norwich reached here Saturday afternoon about 3 o'clock having been detained by heavy weather in the sound. Both she and the State of New York made extra trips yesterday.

A liver panic was created in the shop of C. B. Rogers Saturday by the appearance of a man who had ignorantly called upon a small-pox patient.

Columbian lodge, No. 24, K. of P., is the name of the new lodge at Putnam.

The Knights from this city who attended the installation of the lodge speak of Mr. Eddy and their treatment in the highest terms.

Tuesday, Jan. 30, 1872.—The annual meeting of the City Missionary society was held in the lecture room of the Second Congregational church last evening. George Colt, vice president of the society, in the chair. The Rev. Mr. Hopley made his annual report showing the charitable disbursements for the year to have been \$714.04, and in view of his retiring from the field gave a brief review of his labors during the six years in which he has been employed by the society. Remarks endorsing Mr. Hopley's work were made by the Rev. Mr. Dana, Mr. Learned, Mr. Spalding and others. Mr. Hopley expects to enter upon his duties as pastor of the First Congregational church, Portland, Conn., within a few days.

A meeting of the stockholders of the Merchants National bank will be held on March 4th, to consider a proposition to increase the capital stock to \$250,000. Yesterday was one of the coldest of the season, the thermometer registering as low as seven degrees above zero. There was a piercing wind and a slight snow storm.

Wednesday, Jan. 31, 1872.—At the annual meeting of the Delany Steam, Fire Engine Company, No. 5, last evening, George F. Williams was elected foreman; George T. Capen, first assistant; Henry Anthony, second assistant, and William P. Meyers, secretary and treasurer.

In consequence of the removal of John

T. Fanning, of this city, to Vermont, the office of lieutenant colonel of the Third Regiment will be made vacant and an election to fill it will be made next month.

A few days since, Frank Hewitt, a son of E. H. Hewitt, received a check from Chamberlain Brothers, on the West Side, and obtaining the money on it, immediately proceeded to let joy be unconfined in the matter of beer. While engaged in converting himself into a portable barrel, he formed the acquaintance of two cheerful spirits, Edwin Verriington and William Perkins, the former of Lantern Hill and the latter of Westbury, with whom he drank frequently and many. They then invited him to ride to Preston, but instead of leaving him at his home, insisted upon carrying him about three miles on that interesting highway. The Preston City road. Here they allowed him to leave the wagon but demanded that he pay them for the ride. While he was examining his pocketbook, one of them struck him in the face while the other seized the money and both got up and travelled.

Thursday, Feb. 1, 1872.—The severe weather of the last few days closed the Thames yesterday morning and early in the day boys were skating on New London harbor. The State of New York was unable to reach Albany's Point and after an effort to do so returned to New London, where the freight boat was ordered to stop today. Towards noon, however, a light wind broke up the ice which rapidly drifted out to sea, and at night a stream was available and the fire gained such headway that it was practically beyond control. The steamer was refloated as soon as possible by the force pump of the Norwich Bleaching and Calendering company and a messenger was despatched to the city for assistance. On his arrival here about six o'clock he found the night police off duty and nobody in their places. The alarm. A little desultory yelling, however, sufficed to bring out our ever-ready department, but it was some time before it was decided to take the road to Greenfield.

The two steamers arriving about 7 o'clock were a material reinforcement to the exhausted firemen, and a vast quantity of water was soon poured upon the burning building and the fire was soon afterwards under control, although it was not until the morning that it was finally extinguished.

The origin of the fire is unknown. The building was a large three-story structure of brick and was a credit to the place. The cost was about \$50,000, but as the wall was uninjured and only part of the interior burned out, it is thought that it can be repaired for from \$15,000 to \$18,000.

C. W. Carter has removed from his old store on Shetucket street to the store formerly occupied by S. R. Parlin, corner of Main and Shetucket streets, which he has fitted up elaborately and in elegant taste.

Bedding.—A petition signed by 18 property holders of Redding Center, Ridge, and Pleasant Valley was sent last week to the public utilities commission in Hartford asking for a hearing on the subject of acquiring electricity in the town.

LODGE NOTES

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS.

The Knights of Columbus announced this week that General Pershing had chosen Mlle. Micheline Resco, a French artist, to paint the portrait of himself which the Knights of Columbus will present to the French government as part of America's contribution to the war museum to be established at the Invalides. Many portrait painters sought the privilege of having their work thus immortalized.

Mlle. Resco virtually had completed a portrait of General Pershing before he returned from Paris on his last visit. "I consider it by far the best portrait that has been made of me," General Pershing wrote to Supreme Treasurer D. J. Callahan, according to the Knights' announcement. "It is typical of the generous and patriotic spirit of the Knights of Columbus, whose work I highly appreciate, to present this to France in the name of the United States."

Arrangements are being completed for formal presentation of the picture by Ambassador Herrick to the French fine arts minister.

MASONIC.

In his annual report at the Masonic Grand Lodge meeting in Hartford Wednesday, Grand Master Charles W. Cramer of Hartford told about the activities of many lodges. Dispositions had been given to two new lodges in Stamford, Roosevelt and Commonwealth.

Grand Secretary George A. Kies gave a report showing a net gain of 2,558 in members during the year. Candidates raised were 3,454 and members affiliated, 122; deaths, 505. Members now number 37,644.

Lodges raising large numbers of candidates were Hartford, 159; St. John's, Norwalk, 131; Annawan, West Haven, 118; Hospitality, Wethersfield, 115; St. John's, Hartford, 103.

The largest lodge was Hartford, 1,421; Hiram, New Haven, 1,255; St. John's, Hartford, 1,202; Worcester, New Haven, 1,138.

The grand lodge opened in full form and Rev. Dr. Frank E. German of Middletown, grand chaplain, offered prayer.

It was voted to give recognition to the grand lodge of Queensland, Australia, and \$100 to the Masonic Veterans' association. The report of Grand Treasurer Joseph Buhs showed receipts of \$22,670.08 and a balance of \$10,832.24.

Grand trustees reported a balance in their hands of \$17,714.54.

At the annual meeting of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut at Masonic temple at Hartford Wednesday evening, President Fred A. Verplanck reported for the year, giving an outline of the work accomplished.

John O. Rowland, the retiring superintendent, made a verbal report, anticipating his written report, to be included in the printed proceedings. He was much affected as he referred to his relinquishment of his work at the home. Andrew J. Pollock, the new superintendent, spoke briefly.

Treasurer Joseph Buhs of Hartford reported the balance for 1921, \$122,322.82; receipts of \$75,552.75; total, \$197,875.57. Disbursements were \$55,498.55, leaving a balance of \$142,377.02. The assets of the Masonic Charity Foundation total \$458,210.17.

Secretary George A. Kies of Hartford reported his receipts from various sources during the year to total \$5,553.03. Of this amount \$2,197.81 was from the Eastern Star for hospital uses.

The delegates to the grand lodge elected Past Grand Master Thomas McKenzle of Pawcatuck, a member of the board of managers for three years.

The life members elected S. Ernest Deane of Danbury for three years and to fill the vacancy for one year, caused by the resignation of Andrew J. Hallock, elected Norman C. Stevens of Hartford.

To represent the Order of the Eastern Star, H. W. Lines of Meriden, George Sturges of Woodbury and Leonard J. Nickerson of West Cornwall were elected for one year.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

Wauregan lodge, No. 6, is keeping up its record of receiving applications for membership and had two presented at its meeting last Tuesday evening in Englewood hall. It is probable that there will be degree work at the meeting next week.

MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA.

The members of the Foresters' team of Ionic Camp, No. 7694, under the leadership of Chief Forester A. J. Turner held a meeting recently at the home of Forester Beckman. The team is planning a series of whistles in the near future to be given for the benefit of the

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WILLINGTON

Stanley Kane, president of the button factory at the Hollow, was in New York recently on business. He reports the button business in an improved condition.

Charles Lyon is at his home on account of illness of work, where he was employed in Attleboro, Mass.

The five men in the employ of the government hunting for traces of gypsy moths, are boarding with Mrs. Charles Kornar.

Mr. and Mrs. Anton Hink have gone to Florida. They will travel about the state.

Miss Katie Becker has left New York where she was employed and has returned home, as her mother was not well.

Men from Stafford Springs are installing a Delco light plant and pump for W. C. Ruby.

Work is slack here. All the state road men except the truck drivers, were laid off the middle of December.

Miss Katie Becker was the guest of Miss Mary Bues of Willimantic, Monday, returning home Friday.

W. C. Ruby moved his steam saw mill to Wethersfield Hill, on the lot bought from Charles Velt. Frank Bosworth and Lucius Squires are cutting the logs.

Mrs. Merrill Cushman, with the spirit of youth, was coasting with her children and grandchildren, this week.

Seven year old Robert Merceyran Preston had been skating over the lawns quite successfully, so tried the common where older boys were skating. He got a bad fall, cut his face and drew blood at tooth. He was in bed a few days as the result of the accident.

Oliver Davis, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Davis, was taken to Johnson hospital, after an illness of a week with symptoms of appendicitis. He was resting comfortably at last reports.

Miss Elizabeth Parker, of Mansfield, has been visiting Miss Merceyran. Ben Robbins had another acute attack of indigestion, and was ill for a few days.

The condition of Mrs. Emily Gardner is much improved.

Prof. Joel Eno, of New York, and Jesse Eno of Mansfield Center, have put up a marble headstone at North Bloomfield for their grandfather, Jesse Eno, who died at the age of 89. Joel Eno was named for his great-grandfather.

A sister, Mrs. Jennie Brooks, of Mansfield Center contributed toward the stone. The Eno family lived on a farm in Moose Meadow many years. The farm was an active member of the Methodist church and Mrs. Brooks was a successful teacher in the town schools.

George Wright has 600 hens that are laying well.

At the recent Connecticut Swine Growers' association meeting held at the State Armory, Hartford, William Parley, a local man, took first prize of five dollars on bacon, second and third prizes of four and three dollars respectively on ham.

SALEM

The Salem grange was reorganized Tuesday evening with 35 members. The new officers were elected, and installed by the state master, assisted by his wife. Following are the new officers for the ensuing year: Master, Ira D. Gifford; overseer, E. B. Ames; lecturer, Mrs. Alice Mitchell; steward, George W. Moore; assistant steward, Donald M. Fraser; chaplain, Mrs. Mary Harting; treasurer, Richard B. Tibbets; secretary, Mrs. Helen Malone; gatekeeper, Herbert Maynard; Ceres, Mrs. Dora DeWolfe; Pomona, Mrs. Nellie Bliven; Flora, Mrs. Lois Rowe; lady assistant steward, Miss Violet I. Rogers; executive committee, Ray A. Bliven, Edward A. Mitchell, Byron Ames. Sandwiches, cake and coffee were served at the close of the meeting.

Mrs. Ernest Spencer, Lawrence Spencer and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rogers were recent visitors in Norwich and New London.

Mrs. James Lane and daughter, Miss Janet, are spending some time in New London.

Misses Helen Rogers and Eleanor Moore, N. F. A. students, are spending a few days at their homes here during the mid-year examinations.

E. A. Mitchell was a New London caller Monday.

Mrs. Minnie Grinnell is spending the week with New Haven friends.

Elmer M. Chadwick and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rogers were visitors in Manchester and Rockville Tuesday.

Pupils perfect in attendance in the Pond school for January were Frank Cherrick, Lena Cherrick, May Cherrick, Ruth Cohen, Pauline Cherrick, White Birch, Frances Holt, James Holt, Erma Holt, John Urbanik.

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